

10/723,195
DN GSIE 8803US
Amendment Dated September 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending. Claims 32-35 are allowed. Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-27, 29-31, 36 and 37 are rejected. Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended herein. Claims 6-8, 17-18, 21, 22, and 28-29 are canceled herein. Claims 6, 17, and 28 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Rejection of Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-27, 29-31, 36 and 37 Under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Claims 1-5, 7-16, 18-27, 29-31, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable by U.S. Pat. No. 5,027,781 to *Lewis* and in view of either legal precedent or official notice.

As suggested by the Examiner claims 6, 17, and 28 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the base limitations. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include a screen affixed to an intake pipe "by interference fit" and claim 6 has been canceled. Also, claim 11 has been amended to include a screen affixed to an intake pipe "by interference fit" and claim 17 has been canceled. Furthermore, claim 23 has been amended to include a screen affixed to an intake pipe "by interference fit" and claim 28 has been canceled.

Claim 1 forms the basis for dependent claim 2-5, 7-10, and 36. Claim 11 forms the basis for dependent claim 12-16 and 19-20. Claim 23 forms the basis for dependent claim 24-27, 29-31, and 37. Because a dependent claim cannot be obvious if the

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independent claim from which it depends is not obvious, all claims depending from claims 1, 11, and 23 must also be found nonobvious.

In light of the above, Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-16, 19-20, 23-27, 30-31, and 36-37 as being obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Conclusion.

Applicant believes the above analysis and the amendments made herein overcome all of the Examiner's rejections and that Claims 1-5, 7-16, 19-20, 23-27, and 30-37 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued for those claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit overpayment under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account 162201.

Respectfully submitted,

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Scott Anthony Smith
Registration No. 46,067
POLSTER, LIEDER, WOODRUFF & LUCCHESI, L.C.
12412 Powerscourt Drive, Suite 200
St. Louis, MO 63131-3615
Telephone: (314) 238-2400
Facsimile: (314) 238-2401